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Don Paarlberg to Senator James O. Eastland, 27 February 1959

Don Paarlberg

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

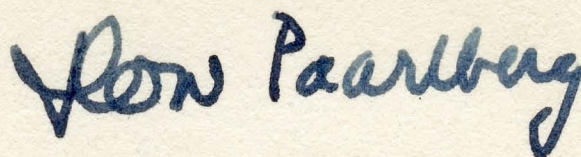
February 27, 1959

Dear Senator Eastland:

Thank you for your telegram regarding cotton. There is full awareness here as to the provisions of law governing our export policy for cotton. There is, of course, every intention to adhere to the law.

If you feel that my understanding needs further bolstering, please get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Don Paarlberg". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Don Paarlberg
Special Assistant to the President

Honorable James O. Eastland
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

COPY OF TELEGRAM

Sent 11 o'clock a.m., February 25, 1959

HONORABLE DON PAARLBERG
ECONOMIC ADVISER TO THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Understand State Department opposes announced cotton export program. It is unthinkable that announced program would be changed or in any wise tampered with. Thousands of farmers have borrowed money, employed labor and in certain parts of cotton belt have planted cotton in reliance upon program announced by the Department of Agriculture. They will suffer grievous and financial losses if program is modified or changed. After all, Department of Agriculture has simply complied with the law of the land. All they did was meet the Mexican export price. Cotton industry in Mexico is controlled by a few giant American cotton companies. These companies would be the beneficiary of any change in export program. Thousands of cotton farmers would lose in order that four or five giant cotton corporations would be enriched. Hope to discuss matter with you in person next week.

JAMES O. EASTLAND